

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of managing a computer mass storage system that hosts a plurality of users, the method comprising:

obtaining agreement with a user to provide a level of erasure of hosted data on the computer mass storage system; and

erasing the hosted data according to the level of erasure that was agreed upon;

wherein the level of erasure comprises:

overwriting the hosted data with new data as the new data is generated by another user;

bulk erasing the hosted data, wherein bulk erasing comprises one of:

single pass bulk erasing the hosted data; or

multiple pass bulk erasing the hosted data, wherein multiple pass bulk erasing includes repeatedly bulk erasing the hosted data, with different bulk erasing patterns; and

destroying at least a portion of the computer mass storage system that includes the hosted data;

wherein the hosted data is contained in a storage medium of the computer mass storage system and wherein the erasing comprises erasing the hosted data according to the level of erasure that was agreed upon, in response to repurposing the storage medium.

2 – 7. (canceled)

8. A method of managing a business or personal computer mass storage system, the method comprising:

automatically destroying the business or personal computer mass storage system upon occurrence of a predetermined business or personal event, absent an override within a predetermined time of the predetermined business or personal event.

wherein the predetermined business or personal event comprises at least one of (a) a changed environmental condition and (b) a command from an authorized sender;

wherein the predetermined business or personal event is one or more of: (a) a changed environmental condition and wherein the override comprises a command to ignore the changed environmental condition; (b) a first command from an authorized or unauthorized sender and wherein the override comprises a second command from an authorized sender to ignore the first command; (c) a command that is issued responsive to bankruptcy of a user of the business or personal computer mass storage system; and (d) theft of the business or personal computer mass storage system.

9 – 20. (canceled)